

Neighborhood Grants Program
Pre-Submittal Meeting 9/29/06

Question: Based on the timeline, when will the 12 months for a major project be effective?

Answer: The 12 months is effective from the date the grant agreement is executed. For example, if the grant is executed on December 22, 2006 the 12 month period will end on December 22, 2007.

Question: Can you use other District or Federal grants to satisfy the matching requirements?

Answer: Funding from the District of Columbia government is not eligible to satisfy matching requirements; however, federal grants may be counted towards the match.

Question: How many grants do you anticipate awarding?

Answer: There is no set number. The number of grants awarded will depend on the number and quality of applications received related to the amount of available funding.

Question: When is a location waiver necessary?

Answer: You should determine whether or not to apply for a location waiver based on the details of your proposal. All applicants must demonstrate how their proposals will make a direct impact and involve target area stakeholders; this is the most effective when the activities take place within the target area. If you activities will not be taking place within the target area, but will still impact stakeholders, then you should consider applying for a waiver. Approval of the waiver is at the discretion of the District.

Question: If our tax-exempt status is pending can we still apply?

Answer: For a small & simple grant, you may have a pending application, but should provide appropriate documentation with your application. For large projects, you must have been a tax-exempt organization for at least one year prior to the application deadline.

Question: Are these attachments available as a Word document?

Answer: Yes, attachments can be emailed in Word format. All attendees will be emailed the Word version.

Question: Is there a target audience this grant should satisfy?

Answer: The target audience is the stakeholders of the 12 NIF target areas. There is no one stakeholder group that is preferable over another. The NGP mission is to build stronger, healthier, and safer communities by nurturing community relationships through civic action and participation.

Question: If you have an existing program and would like to expand it or do multiple smaller projects, is it eligible?

Answer: Yes, as long as your proposal meets the goal of the NGP program and all guidelines and eligibility criteria.

Question: What is the narrative page limit?

Answer: The narrative is limited to five (5) pages single-spaced and an additional 1 page may be added for a partnership. If you need additional pages for any of the attachments, please label the pages with you name and the question.

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Question: How often do you anticipate the release of funds under this Request for Grant Applications (RFA) Packet?

Answer: Currently there is only one RFA scheduled for the FY2006 NGP allocation from the Neighborhood Investment Fund. If at the conclusion of this round there are uncommitted funds, then an additional Request for Grant Applications may be released. Additional funding for the NGP program from the NIF is being explored and proposed to the Council for approval in the FY2007 NIF spending plan, as required by the Neighborhood Investment Act of 2004.

Question: If it's a summer program, should I apply now?

Answer: Yes. We can not guarantee the availability of future funding.

Question: Is this the first grant application released under the Neighborhood Investment Fund (NIF)?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Will there be other grant programs offered through the Neighborhood Investment Fund this year?

Answer: Yes. There is the Land Acquisition and Predevelopment Loan Fund for the acquisition of property (land or buildings) and predevelopment activities associated with housing, community facilities, and mixed-use projects. The RFP for projects under this program will be released in late Fall 2006. There is also the Predevelopment and Project Grant program that provides predevelopment grants to early-stage development projects for housing and community facilities. The RFP for projects under this program will be released in late Fall 2006. Please visit the NIF page on the ODMPED website at www.dcbiz.dc.gov to receive additional information about these and other programs.